

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 024665
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:CMONROE:PDW
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
-----097950 310812Z /11
R 310209Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR THEROS FROM NEA/ARN: MONROE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, SY

SUBJECT: DAMASCUS FAIR FINANCING

REF: DAMASCUS 380

1. IN CHECKING WITH COMMERCE/CAGNE, NEA/ARN (MONROE)
LEARNED FOLLOWING: FIRST, THAT CAGNE ESTIMATES TOTAL
OVERSEAS COSTS OF 1978 PARTICIPATION IN DAMASCUS FAIR AT
DOLS 98,900. OF THIS AMOUNT, COMMERCE WILL PAY FOR
DOLS 8,600, AND THE REMAINING BALANCE OF DOLS 90,300 TO
COME FROM EXHIBITORS CONTRIBUTIONS. TOTAL COSTS OF FAIR
ARE ESTIMATED AT DOLS 140,000, WHICH INCLUDES SUCH THINGS
AS SUPPORT COSTS FOR FAIR MANAGER AND FISCAL ASSISTANT.

2. SECOND, COMMERCE IS COUNTING ON POST TO GENERATE
SUFFICIENT PARTICIPATION SO AS TO ENSURE RECEIPT OF
DOLS 90,300 FROM EXHIBITORS CONTRIBUTIONS. IF THIS AMOUNT
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IS NOT MET IN FACT, COMMERCE WILL THEN EXAMINE QUESTION OF
HOW TO FINANCE BALANCE. (THIS DOES NOT ASSUME THAT
COMMERCE WILL IN FACT PICK UP TAB.)

3. THIRD, COMMERCE IS, OF COURSE, PROCEEDING ON ASSUMPTION
THAT U.S. WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN 1978 FAIR, THUS
DEFERRING QUESTION OF HOW TO FUND POTENTIAL UNFINANCED GAP

UNTIL IT OCCURS (IF IT OCCURS). THE BUDGET AUTHORIZATION
FOR OVERSEAS COSTS IS THERE, BUT CAGNE DOES NOT EXPECT
POST TO OBLIGATE MORE THAN DOLS 35,000 PRIOR TO APRIL.
THUS USDOC 207 SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS COMMERCE GIFT
OF DOLS 97,000 TOWARD FAIR. NEA/ARN URGES PROMPT
RESPONSE TO COMMUNIQUE OF JANUARY 4 TO AMBASSADOR. VANCE

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